

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.142

Sir:

Applicants, through their representative, respectfully submit the following response to an official action mailed 10/07/2005 requiring election of invention as between three (3) alleged patentably distinct groups of claims.

The Examiner has identified three inventions consisting of Claims 1 - 18, 39 - 59, and 64 - 67 ("Group I."); Claims 19 - 38 ("Group II."); and Claims 60 - 63 ("Group III.") and requires the Applicants to elect a single disclosed group of claims for prosecution on the merits.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his review of their application and respectfully ELECT without traverse, Claims 1 - 18, 39 - 59, and 64 - 67 ("Group I."). Applicants also request that Claims 19 - 38 and 60 - 63 be withdrawn without prejudice.

A complete listing of all the claims, and the status of each, is included below in a separate section.